

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 FEA-01 AGRE-00 CEA-01

CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-01 H-02 INR-07 INT-05

L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 AID-05 SS-15

STR-04 ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01

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FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7169

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

USDEL MTN GENEVA

USMISSION OECD PARIS

AMCONSUL ADANA

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

AMCONSUL IZMIR

UNCLAS ANKARA 2848

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, TU

SUBJECT: TURKEY SEEKS WAIVER OF GSP COMPETITIVE NEED EXCLUSIONS

REF: A) STATE 44660; B) STATE 10679

1. TURKISH GOVERNMENT HAS ASKED EMBASSY TO TRANSMIT REQUEST TO U.S. INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION TO DETERMINE WHETHER OR NOT THERE WAS LIKE OR DIRECTLY COMPETITIVE PRODUCTION IN US ON JANUARY 3, 1975 OF TSUS ITEMS 140.35 (LENTILS, DRIED, DESICCATED, OR DEHYDRATED), 141.35 (CHICKPEAS), 145.53 (PISTACHIO NUTS), AND 146.22 (DRIED APRICOTS).

2. LETTER OF APRIL 14 TO E/C COUNSELOR FROM METIN KARACA, DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORGANIZATIONS, MFA, MAKING REQUEST, READS AS FOLLOWS: QUOTE:
DEAR MISS MCDONNELL,
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WITH REFERENCE TO YOUR LETTERS OF JANUARY 24, 1977 AND MARCH 8, 1977, INFORMING US THAT CERTAIN TURKISH PRODUCTS HAVE FALLEN UNDER THE COMPETITIVE-NEED EXCLUSIONS FOR 1977 AND HAVE BECOME INELIGIBLE FOR THE GENERALIZED SYSTEM OF PREFERENCES (GSP) IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE SECTION 504 (C) OF THE U.S. TRADE ACT OF 1975; I WISH TO INFORM YOU THAT EXPORT SITUATION REGARDING THE SAID ITEMS HAVE BEEN DULY

EXAMINED BY OUR RELEVANT AUTHORITIES. THE STUDY OF TURKISH EXPORT STATISTICS HAVE INDICATED THAT THE APPRAISED VALUES OF THE ITEMS IN QUESTION - 140.35 (LENTILS, DRIED, DESSICATED OR DEHYDRATED), 141.35 (CHICKPEAS), 145.53 (PISTACHIO NUTS) AND 146.22 (DRIED APRICOTS) - MAY EXCEED 50 PERCENT OF THE APPRAISED VALUE OF THE TOTAL U.S. IMPORTS OF THOSE ITEMS FROM ALL SOURCES IN 1976. HOWEVER, IN RECOURSE TO THE POSSIBILITY OF WAIVING THESE EXCLUSIONS THROUGH THE EXCEPTION WHERE U.S. INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION DETERMINES THAT THERE WAS NOT LIKE OR DIRECTLY COMPETITIVE PRODUCTION IN THE U.S. ON THE DATE OF THE ENACTMENT OF THE TRADE ACT; MY GOVERNMENT WISHES THE ABOVE MENTIONED TURKISH PRODUCTS BE CONSIDERED BY THE U.S. INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION SO THAT THE ELIGIBILITY OF THESE PRODUCTS TO BENEFIT FROM THE U.S. GSP SCHEME COULD BE MAINTAINED. I SHALL APPRECIATE IT IF YOU WOULD KINDLY INFORM US ABOUT THE DECISION OF THE U.S. INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, THUS ENABLING US TO INFORM THE CONCERNED AUTHORITIES ACCORDINGLY. UNQUOTE

3. EMBASSY DOUBTS WHETHER THE FOUR TURKISH COMMODITIES DIFFER SIGNIFICANTLY FROM ITEMS OF SAME NAME PRODUCED IN U.S. WE BELIEVE, HOWEVER, THAT U.S. DOES NOT PRODUCE MANY PISTACHIOS COMMERCIALY. IF WE ARE CORRECT, WE WOULD HAVE TO ASK WHETHER EXCLUSION OF TURKISH PISTACHIOS FROM GSP IS WARRANTED TO PROTECT DOMESTIC PRODUCERS.

4. CIF IMPORT VALUES SUGGEST THAT 1975 IMPORTS FROM TURKEY OF TSUS ITEMS 140.35 AND 146.22 MIGHT NOT HAVE EQUALLED 50 UNCLASSIFIED

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PERCENT OF APPRAISED VALUE OF TOTAL U.S. IMPORTS OF SUCH COMMODITIES THAT YEAR AND THAT PROVISIONS OF SECTION 504(C)(2) OF TRADE ACT MIGHT THEREFORE APPLY.

5. IF SECTION 504(C)(2) IS APPLICABLE, EMBASSY WOULD RECOMMEND THAT INTERNATIONAL TARIFF COMMISSION TAKE INTO ACCOUNT, IN CONNECTION WITH SECTION 502(C), TURKEY'S SEVERE FOREIGN TRADE DEFICITS OVER PAST SEVERAL YEARS (1974: 2.2, 1975: 3.3, 1976: 3.2, PROJECTED 1977: 3.3 BILLION DOLLARS), WHICH HAVE BEEN ONLY PARTLY OFFSET BY INVISIBLES AND CAPITAL TRANSACTIONS. IN VIEW OF TURKEY'S INTERNATIONAL PAYMENTS PROBLEMS, EMBASSY HOPES THAT COUNTRY'S EXPORTS OF PISTACHIOS, LENTILS, AND APRICOTS TO U.S. COULD CONTINUE TO BENEFIT UNDER GSP.

6. ACTION REQUESTED: EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE BEING INFORMED OF ANY SPECIAL PROCEDURES GOT SHOULD FOLLOW IN SUPPORT OF ITS REQUEST FOR AN ITC REVIEW. MACOMBER

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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